

IN THE SUPREME COURT OF THE STATE OF ALASKA
ORDER NO. 1454

Amending Alaska Bar Rule 22(a)
regarding grievance intake procedure.

IT IS ORDERED:

Alaska Bar Rule 22(a) is amended to read as follows:

Rule 22. Procedure.

(a) Grievances. Grievances will be in writing, signed and verified by the Complainant, and contain a clear statement of the details of each act of alleged misconduct, including the approximate time and place of each. Grievances will be filed with Bar Counsel. Bar Counsel will review the grievance filed to determine whether it is properly completed and contains allegations that warrant investigation. Bar Counsel may require the Complainant to provide additional information and may request a voluntary verified response from the Respondent prior to accepting a grievance.

If Bar Counsel determines that the allegations contained in the grievance do not warrant an investigation, Bar Counsel will so notify the Complainant and Respondent in writing. Complainant may file a request for review of the determination within 30 days of the date of Bar Counsel's written notification. The request shall be reviewed by the Board Discipline Liaison, who may affirm Bar Counsel's decision not to accept the grievance for

investigation or may direct that an investigation be opened as to one or more of the allegations in the grievance.

If a grievance is accepted for investigation, Bar Counsel will serve a copy of the grievance upon the Respondent for a response. Bar Counsel may require the Respondent to provide, within 20 days of service, verified full and fair disclosure in writing of all facts and circumstances pertaining to the alleged misconduct. Misrepresentation in a response to Bar Counsel will itself be grounds for discipline. Failure to answer within the prescribed time, or within such further time that may be granted in writing by Bar Counsel, will be deemed an admission to the allegations in the grievance.

For the purposes of this Rule, a grievance or response is “verified” if it is accompanied by a signed statement that the writing is true and correct to the best knowledge and belief of the writer.

DATED: July 23, 2003

EFFECTIVE DATE: October 15, 2003

Chief Justice Bryner

Justice Matthews

Justice Eastaugh

Justice Fabe

Justice Carpeneti